

U.S. Appl. No. 10/720,512
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/720,512
Applicant : Anthony G. Karandinos et al.
Filed : November 24, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1713
Examiner : Roberto Rabago
Docket No. : 1999B060/3
For : *Polypropylene-Based Adhesive Compositions*
Customer No. : 23455

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF JEAN M. TANCREDE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

Dear Sir:

I, Jean M. Tancrede, hereby declare that:

1. I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Katy, Texas, United States.
2. I was awarded a PhD degree in Organic Chemistry from Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, in 1973. From 1973 to 1974, I was a Post-Doctoral student at the University of Texas conducting research on new organometallic compounds for organic synthesis. From 1974 through 1980, I was employed with Union Carbide Corporation conducting research and development on high performance polymers as well as the synthesis of polymers for adhesive applications. Since 1981 I have been continuously employed as a chemical researcher by ExxonMobil Chemical Company, conducting research and development work concerning, among other things, the synthesis and production of polymers which may be useful as adhesives.
3. I am one of the inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in the above-identified patent application.
4. I understand that in the Office Action dated June 30, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 14, 15, 16, and 51, because, among other things, the Examiner believes the scope

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of "MFR" cannot be determined since the claims do not state the load condition used under ASTM D1238 to test and determine the MFR of the claimed composition.

5. I participated in the testing of the MFR in accordance with the disclosure of the claimed invention. Using ASTM D1238, the MFR was determined under a temperature condition of 230°C, as stated in the specification, and under a load condition of 2.16 kg. It is customary in this area of technology to use a load condition of 2.16 kg. One of ordinary skill in the art would know and be aware of this custom and be apprised, without speculation or undue experimentation, that the scope of the patent claims at issue include testing at load conditions of 2.16 kg.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date 9-28-06


Jean M. Tancrede